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## The People of the Polar North. A Record. By Knud Rasmussen.

Compiled from the Danish originals, and edited by G. Herring. xvii and 358 pp., 12 Colored Plates, numerous Illustrations, and Map. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1908. Price, \$5.

Mr. Rasmussen's "New People," in the German edition, was noticed in the Bulletin (Vol. XL, p. 564). The present book includes both "New People" and Mr. Rasmussen's later work "Under the Lash of the North Wind." It deals with the civilized, Christianized inhabitants of southwest and west Greenland, with the East Greenlanders, but, first and foremost, it is an account of the little Eskimo group of nomads who wander along the coast between 76° and 78° N. Lat. and whom he calls "The Polar Eskimos."

We have recently heard that Mr. Rasmussen is preparing, in Denmark, to make a six years' tour along the whole of the north coast of North America as far as Alaska, with the slender equipment of kayak and dog sledge, in order to study at first hand the surviving remnant of this once numerous race. The literary results of his studies thus far, well translated into English in this volume, reveal Rasmussen as remarkably well equipped for carrying out researches among the Eskimos. His mother was a South Greenland Eskimo-Danish woman, his father a Dane, and he was educated in Denmark, though most of his life has been spent among his kinspeople in Greenland. He understands all the Eskimo dialects he has met, has had scientific training, is able to live among the natives as one of them, and thus is peculiarly fitted to win their confidence and affection and to acquire an intimate knowledge of their religious beliefs, legends, and personal recollections. His results, fully set forth in this handsome volume, show Rasmussen as a sympathetic and able student of these northern people and the most competent investigator, thus far, of their inner life, beliefs and traditions. About half of the volume is devoted to the fables and legends of the people of which the author has collected a rich store. All the illustrations are characteristic of the natives and their habitat, and the coloured views are striking. The map shows the route of the Danish Literary expedition of 1902, of which Rasmussen was a member, to north Greenland and return.

The International Geography. By Seventy Authors. Edited by Hugh Robert Mill. Latest Edition. xx and 1088 pp., 489 Maps and Diagrams, and Index. D. Appleton & Company, New York, 1909. Price, \$3.50.

The latest edition of this standard book will be especially welcomed because, probably, there is no other one reference volume in English that is so helpful as this one is to English-speaking geographical workers. On the whole, it is our best authority for the English spelling of place-names; and the fact that the whole world is treated in one volume, by the collaboration of a large number of specialists, makes the book a compendium of the most important things in geography that is both authoritative and convenient.

The Guide to South Africa. 16th Edition. xlii and 478 pp., Colored Maps, Plans and Diagrams. Issued annually for the Union-Castle Mail S. S. Co. Sampson, Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., London, 1909. Price, 75c.

This compilation, with its many maps, and town plans, packed with information for the tourist, sportsman, invalid and settler, is revised every year and is one of the indispensable sources of reference relating to South Africa.